

## Anthony Anderson and Tracee Ellis Ross to Host "BET Awards" 2015

"BET AWARDS" TO AIR LIVE ON SUNDAY, JUNE 28 FROM NOKIA THEATRE L.A. LIVE IN LOS ANGELES, CA AT 8 P.M. ET

BET EXPERIENCE AT L.A. LIVE PRESENTED BY COCA-COLA® TAKES PLACE JUNE 25-28, 2015

### #BETAWARDS

NEW YORK--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- BET Networks, a unit of Viacom Inc. (NASDAQ: VIAB, VIA), today revealed **Anthony Anderson** and **Tracee Ellis Ross** as hosts for this year's "[BET Awards](#)" 2015 airing live on Sunday, June 28 at 8pm/ET on BET from the Nokia Theatre L.A. LIVE in Los Angeles, CA.

"I look forward to the BET Awards every year! Tracee and I are going to have so much fun this year celebrating 15 years in black entertainment television," said **Anthony Anderson**. "I can't wait to see all of my peers and the amazing performances that evening. We may even have a few surprises up our sleeves!"

"I'm thrilled to be hosting the 15<sup>th</sup> annual BET Awards alongside my on-screen husband Anthony, and am so honored to also be a nominee! The BET Awards always deliver an epic evening with the best of the best across movies, sports, TV and music," said **Tracee Ellis Ross**.

"We can't think of a better way to ring in 15 years of BET Awards than with the talented on-screen duo of Anthony Anderson and Tracee Ellis Ross as our hosts," said **Stephen Hill, BET's President of Programming**. "They are both comedic geniuses and we are ready for them to unleash the laughter and good times on June 28. It will be a night to remember!"

Actor, writer and Los Angeles native, Anthony Anderson is currently starring and Executive Producer of ABC's new comedy *Black-ish* alongside actress Tracee Ellis Ross and host on Food Network's *Eating America*. He is known for leading roles on NBC's Emmy Award-winning drama *Law & Order* where he played Detective Kevin Bernard opposite Jeremy Sisto as Detective Cyrus Lupo, as well as the shows *K-Ville* and *The Shield*. Anderson also brought his talent and humor to the small screen in his own WB sitcom *All About the Andersons*, which was loosely based on his life. Anderson has appeared in over 20 films, and his performance on *Law & Order* earned him his second consecutive NAACP Image Award nomination for Outstanding Actor in a Drama Series for the 2008 season. He also displayed his bountiful talent in the DreamWorks' blockbuster *Transformers* directed by Michael Bay; as well as in Martin Scorsese's Oscar winning feature, *The Departed*, alongside a stellar cast including Leonardo DiCaprio, Matt Damon and Jack Nicholson. Anderson first gained attention as one of Jim Carrey's sons in *Me, Myself, and Irene*, and has subsequently appeared in such films as *Scary Movie 3*, *Barbershop*, *Kangaroo Jack*, *Exit Wounds*, *Cradle 2 the Grave*, *Two Can Play That Game*, and *Malibu's Most Wanted*.

Actress, model, comedian, producer and television host, Tracee Ellis Ross began her career acting in independent films, variety series and hosted the pop-culture magazine *The Dish* on Lifetime. She is best known for her lead role as Joan Clayton on the UPN/CW comedy series, *Girlfriends*. She starred in the show from 2000 to 2008. In 2007, Ross also starred with her brother Evan Ross and Queen Latifah in the HBO film *Life Support*. That same year, she appeared in the Tyler Perry theatrical movie, *Daddy's Little Girls* and in 2011 had a leading role as Dr. Carla Reed on the BET sitcom *Reed Between the Lines*. She won a third NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Actress in a Comedy Series in 2012 for her performance in the series. In 2012, the fashion influencer expanded her vast digital influence by launching her official website [Traceeellisross.com](http://Traceeellisross.com). The lifestyle site utilizes Ross' unique cross-cultural and joyful point of view to inspire the soul, body and mind of her followers. In 2014, Ross began starring as Dr. Rainbow Johnson in the hit ABC comedy series, *Black-ish*, which will return in September 2015. For her role, Ross won the 2015 NAACP Image Award for "Best Actress in a Comedy Series". This past April, Ross returned to the BET Network to co-host the popular award show, "Black Girls Rock," with Regina King for the fourth televised installment. In May, Ross was awarded an honorary doctorate of fine art (honoris causa) by Brown University. She is nominated in the Best Actress category for the "BET Awards" 2015.

BET Networks recognizes artists, entertainers, and athletes across 20 categories with the "[BET Awards](#)" 2015 nominations. The nominations are selected by BET's Voting Academy, which is comprised of fans and an esteemed group of entertainment professionals in the fields of television, film, music, social media, digital marketing, sports journalism, public relations, and the creative arts.

BET Experience VIP Package offers the only way to purchase a "BET Awards: ticket, great seats to 3 nights of concerts at the Staples Center, and exclusive access to events at the free Fan Fest. For more information, including exclusive hotel rates, and to purchase tickets, go to [BET.com/BETX](http://BET.com/BETX).

A full list of the BET Award 2015 nominations is now available at <http://www.bet.com/BETAwards>

The "BET Awards" 2015 will premiere around the world on BET's international network on Tuesday, June 30 at 9:00pm BST /

10:00pm CAT and will air live on MTV Australia for the very first time (check local listings).

Stephen G. Hill, BET's President of Programming, Connie Orlando, BET's Senior Vice President of Music and Specials, Lynne Harris Taylor, BET's Vice President of Specials, will serve as Executive Producers for the "BET Awards" along with Jesse Collins, CEO of Jesse Collins Entertainment.

The "BET Awards" will take place along with the BET Experience at L.A. LIVE in Los Angeles from June 25-28, 2015. [BET.com/Awards](http://BET.com/Awards) is the official site for the "BET Awards" and will have all the latest news and updates about this year's show. All information about the BET Experience at L.A. LIVE presented by Coca-Cola® can be found at [BETExperience.com](http://BETExperience.com). The BET Experience VIP Package offers the only way to purchase a "BET Awards" ticket, great seats to 3-nights of concerts at the Staples Center, and exclusive access to events at the free Fan Fest. For more information and to purchase tickets, go to [BET.com/BETX.Follow](http://BET.com/BETX.Follow) the Experience on Twitter @betexperience, #BETX. @BETAwards #BETAwards

**To apply for media credentials for the "BET Awards" 2015 please visit:**

<https://betawards2015.iworldreg.com/public/apply/media>

## **ABOUT BET NETWORKS**

BET Networks, a subsidiary of Viacom Inc. (NASDAQ: VIA, VIA.B), is the nation's leading provider of quality entertainment, music, news and public affairs television programming for the African-American audience. The primary BET channel reaches more than 90 million households and can be seen in the United States, Canada, the Caribbean, the United Kingdom and sub-Saharan Africa. BET is the dominant African-American consumer brand with a diverse group of business extensions: [BET.com](http://BET.com), a leading Internet destination for Black entertainment, music, culture, and news; CENTRIC, a 24-hour entertainment network targeting the 25- to 54-year-old African-American audience; BET Digital Networks - BET Gospel and BET Hip Hop, attractive alternatives for cutting-edge entertainment tastes; BET Home Entertainment, a collection of BET-branded offerings for the home environment including DVDs and video-on-demand; BET Event Productions, a full-scale event management and production company with festivals and live events spanning the globe; BET Mobile, which provides ringtones, games and video content for wireless devices; and BET International, which operates BET in the United Kingdom and oversees the extension of BET network programming for global distribution.

## **ABOUT "BET AWARDS"**

The "BET Awards" is one of the most watched award shows on cable television according to the Nielsen Company. The "BET Awards" franchise remains as the #1 program in cable TV history among African-Americans, and it is BET's #1 telecast every year. It recognizes the triumphs and successes of artists, entertainers, and athletes in a variety of categories.

## **ABOUT JESSE COLLINS ENTERTAINMENT**

Jesse Collins Entertainment is a full service television and film production company founded by entertainment industry veteran Jesse Collins. For more than a decade, Collins, the company's CEO, has played an integral role in producing some of television's most memorable moments in music entertainment. Formerly Executive Producer/EVP of Cossette Productions, Collins has produced ground-breaking and award winning television programming including the BET Awards, the GRAMMY Awards, BET Honors, UNCF An Evening of Stars and the BET Hip Hop Awards. Collins is an executive producer of Real Husbands of Hollywood, (now going into its 4th hit season) alongside industry icons Stan Lathan and Ralph Farquhar; and has worked with superstar talent such as Will Smith, Chris Rock, Jay-Z, Rihanna, Kanye West, Kendrick Lamar, Drake, Prince, Mariah Carey and many more.

## **BET EXPERIENCE AT L.A. LIVE PRESENTED BY COCA-COLA®**

BET Networks, an entertainment powerhouse, and AEG, one of the leading entertainment companies in the world and developer/ operator of L.A. LIVE, have teamed up once again to create the BET EXPERIENCE AT L.A. LIVE (BETX), June 25 - 28, 2015 presented by Coca-Cola®. This three-day festival will be filled with music and comedy concerts taking place at Club Nokia and STAPLES Center; "106 & PARK"; FREE BET Fan Fest at the Los Angeles Convention Center including seminars, celebrity basketball games, celebrity meet & greets; and other special appearances. The weekend will be capped off with the "BET Awards" on Sunday, June 28, 2015 at Nokia Theatre L.A. LIVE.

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Source: BET Networks

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